The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

AGITATE!
EDUCATE!
ORGANIZE!

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POLITICAL PARTY JURISDICTION NO PART OF TRADE UNION THEORY

Washington, May 1.—The A. F. of L. does not assume political party jurisdiction over trade unionists, and before it could it must abandon guarantees to every individual member of organized labor and acquire new power from affiliates, said A. F. of L. Secretary Frank Morrison in a letter in which is stated the non-partisan political theory of the A. F. of L.

"The organized workers," said Secretary Morrison, "have consistently opposed the turmoil and distraction of partisan politics which would dilute—and in many cases has destroyed—militant trade unionism.

"Fourteen yeargs ago (1906) the Minneapolis convention of the A. F. of L. declared:

> "'We are not a political party. We disclaim political party jurisdiction. We set up no claim of authority over the political acts of our members. We could not, if we would, for all the political authority we might assume, violate the protection due every man from the union which grants him his card.
>
> "'If we are to create new tests of regularity in unionism, we must first obtain new power from the affiliated bodies which make up the Federation.'

"The A. F. of L. has no authority to declare for aught but the non-partisan political policy," continued Secretary Morrison. "Contrary action would do violence to the theory of voluntary action by wage earners which is constantly urged by the Federation and would annul the guarantee of political freedom that is assured every member of the Federation.

"This guarantee has grown out of the experience of the workers, expressed in their national and international union conventions, in their constitutions and by-laws and later reflexed by delegates from these unions to the annual conventions of the A. F. of L.

"To say that 'it is time to make a change' while trade unionists insist on rigidly maintaining the economic character of their organizations, refuse to be told how to vote and decline to turn their union meetings into political caucuses, is to ignore the first essentials of correct reasoning.

"In the light of history and facts, the claim that any individual trade unionist or group of trade unionists are responsible for the A. F. of L. non-partisan policy is mere assertion.

"Trade unionists are not impelled in their present course by sentiment or by a stubborn refusal to 'take the easiest way.'

"They reject sentiment when discussing plans to combat social injustice and their experience teaches them that there is no 'easy way' to right wrongs that only disappear after long and persistent agitation that eventually develops an enlightened public opinion."

BRITISH WORKERS RESTLESS.

London, England, May 1.—A wave of discontent, similar to that of last year, is passing through the ranks of workers in almost every industry. The most serious is the unrest of railway workers who are demanding the abolition of the sliding scale principle which was the basis of last year's strike settlement. Under this system all grades of railway employes are automatically increased one shilling a week when the cost of living increases five points. This increase is regarded as inadequate in view of the many necessities of life unaccounted for by the government in compiling cost of living statistics. The railway employes are now demanding a flat wage increase.

The unrest has affected post office workers who are protesting against the dilatory methods of the department in negotiating demands for improved conditions. These employes have declared for the creation of a strike fund to be used if the emergency arises.

A national conference to consider wage increases has been called to consist of delegates from the shipbuilding and metal trades, together with clay, chemical and railway shop workers. These workers will act together at the periodical revision of wages under the terms of the industrial courts.

The labor correspondent of Reynolds's Newspaper says that it is becoming harder and harder for trade union officials to convince members that they did the best they could in securing wage agreements. It is stated that there is a tendency to repudiate agreements in spite of contrary advice by officials. This tendency has been fostered, it is stated, by the number of awards in which the system of "splitting the difference" has been adopted.

BRICKLAYERS OUT.

Port Arthur, Texas, May 1. — Bricklayers have suspended work on two big oil refineries and their places are being filled by Mexicans. The Labor Forum, official newspaper of the local central body, says: "If the oil industry wished to do work at their plants in Mexico, they must, in accordance with Mexican law, employ 75 per cent Mexicans to do the work. In other words, for every American bricklayer they take to Mexico to lay brick, they will be compelled to employ three Mexicans. But, on the other hand, corporations in this country seem to have the right to bring in as many Mexicans as they see fit, and replace the American workmen for the purpose of holding down the wage scale."

WON'T JOIN ALLEN'S STRIKE.

Topeka, Kan., May 1.—Governor Allen's proclamation that May 1 be celebrated as "American day" was scoffed at by Topeka trade unionists, who called on the state executive to obey his own law, and not advocate a state-wide strike. The local trades council made this declaration:

"Resolved, By union labor in the city of Topeka that it does not wish to hamper 'the continuity of production' as prohibited in the governor's industrial court law and will 'stay on the job' on May 1—as it has in the past—and take no part in Governor Allen's attempt to create the impression that there is an un-American spirit in Kansas."

PAINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Cleveland, May 1. — Striking painters have raised wages to $1.12½ an hour, as the result of an arbitration award.

New Haven, Conn., May 1.—Painters have raised wages to $7 a day until September 1 next, when rates will be $8. The painters and employers held many conferences. While representatives of the men were thus engaged the others were holding mass meetings and securing the affiliation of every eligible painter. This system made a strike unnecessary.

BRITISH DOCKERS GAIN.

London, England, May 1.—British longshoremen have won their main contention before a board of inquiry, which has ordered a new national minimum of 16 shillings. The workers have also won their demands for the introduction of a system of registration, and the maintenance of unemployed casual labor.

MINERS REVISE DEMANDS.

New York, May 1. — Anthracite miners have revised their wage demands, which now conform with the wage increases awarded the soft coal men by the president's coal commission. No change is made in the other demands, which include the union shop.

A TRADE UNION ARGUMENT.

London, England, May 1. — The Cotton Factory Times prints this trade union argument:

"Another class of workers who have long stood on their dignity as superior persons are the mill engineers. In some towns they have had a sort of union of the friendly or mutual order, where technical papers have been read, etc. But they have never been aggressive nor even practical in the matter of wages and working conditions. Hence it is not surprising that the under men and firemen, who have organized on real union lines, have attained a rate of wages and working conditions pretty near equal in many cases and even superior in some cases, to those of chief engineers. It is rather amusing to read that in the Rochdale district some engineers have threatened the mill owners that if they don't get better pay they will form a union. What an attitude for a body of intelligent men in the twentieth century. Like the mill officials generally, they have trusted to the generosity or justice of the employers only to find that the employers generally only recognize the organized power to enforce a demand when wages, etc., are in question."

DISCUSSION IS URGED.

Washington, May 1.—The A. F. of L. national non-partisan political campaign committee has called on central bodies and local unions to have read and discussed two pamphlets, "Labor's Political Banner Unfurled" and the platform committee's answer to the questionnaire issued by the advisory committee on policies and platform of the republican national committee.

The first named pamphlet is declared to express "the concrete thought of conventions of the A. F. of L. and embraces the spirit and the will of organized labor."

In referring to the questionnaire, it is stated that "these 55 questions place in the field of economic thought and political inquiry ideas that have been discussed in their relation to modern industry, and embraces many of the subjects that have engaged economic thought for the last 10 years. In answering them our platform committee takes up each question and carefully contrasts its tenor with the philosophy of the trade union movement, defining in a concise and forceful manner the position of organized labor upon the issues involved."

AID LOCAL COMMITTEES.

Washington, May 1.—In response to queries from local committees for suggestions to raise money to conduct local non-partisan political campaigns the A. F. of L. non-partisan political campaign committee has issued a neat certificate for the use of local committees to receive contributions of $1. This money may be paid in four installments, and will be used entirely by local committees to pay for halls, printing and other necessary expenses of labor's campaign. No part of this money will be forwarded or controlled by the national committee, and the only provision required is that a portion of the certificate with the name of the contributor be forwarded to the national committee that a record may be kept of contributors and that these contributions be in accord with the spirit and purpose of labor's ideals.

PENSIONS A MONEY SAVER.

Washington, May 1.—If the house approves a retirement bill that has been passed by the senate it will prove a money saver for Uncle Sam. It is stated that the government is now paying annually $6,738,150 to some 8,125 employes for work done by other employes. It would cost the government about $4,817,000 a year to retire these employes. The joint conference of retirement, representing the civil service employes, has forwarded these estimates to every member of the house.

SOCIETY BOYCOTTS.

Boston, May 1.—Our "best citizens" are now using the boycott that was so vigorously denounced when only labor applied it up to a short time ago. In the fashionable back bay district tenants have prepared a blacklist of gouging landlords. The meeting at which this course was decided upon was addressed by a state representative.

DEMAND LIVING WAGE.

Champaign, Ill., May 1.—Teamsters and chauffeurs have suspended work as a protest against low wages. The strikers demand a living wage and recognition of their union.

BARBERS WANT MORE.

White Plains, N. Y., May 1.—Organized barbers at this place have suspended work to enforce a higher wage scale.

"No! No! No!" Is Policy Of Present Congress

BY PRESIDENT GOMPERS IN AMERICAN FEDERATIONIST.

America must get rid of its veto congress and elect an action congress.

The "no" congress must give place to a "yes" congress.

The present congress has done little except to apply the brakes and say "no" to one constructive proposal after another.

There must be a congress which will turn its face to the task confronting the American citizenship in the true spirit of American institutions. A constant genius for accomplishment must replace an ill-considered mania for restriction and coercion.

America has things to do. It is confronted by enormous obligations requiring positive action. This action has been delayed too long.

One of the intolerable and hated things that was crushed in Germany with the exit of the kaiser and the downfall of his regime, was the "verboten" idea in government. "Forbidden," "thou shalt not," these were watchwords and accursed words in the old Germany. They signified the existence of a power which had the right to deny to others rights and privileges which it could grant to the elect and the favored. It was the right to bestow opportunities by favor, unequally.

Repress, repress, repress! From whence comes this sullen mood of legislators, this brutal attitude of great wealth? It comes from the deep-rooted desire of those who possess great power to keep that power and to surrender nothing to those who toil and give service to the world.

There is no thought that all legislators and all possessors of power and wealth are of this mould. But deaf indeed is he who hears not the rising rumble of combat and aggressiveness from those who are of that mould and who are all too many for the good of our land and of our humanity.

When the labor movement of America warns against repression and coercion and reaction it speaks for the welfare of the nation. It speaks for the liberties of great masses of toiling men and women—the only voice they have, the only expression that can carry the longing of their hearts and the convictions of their souls to the ears of the world.

The labor movement of America does speak and it must be heard.

It speaks for progress.

It speaks for established institutions.

It speaks for equality of opportunity.

It speaks for the rights of men and women and of children.

It speaks for the one thing that can save the world and bring solace to its weary spirit.

It speaks in measured denunciation of every vestige of autocracy.

And it speaks with a determination to leave no stone unturned to bring fruition and realization to its aspirations.

Where the effort is made in industry to crowd men and women backward and downward, we will resist and resist and resist, for it is better to resist and lose than never to have resisted.

Where the effort is made in the halls of congress and legislatures we will resist and resist and resist.

We will resist with all our power the re-election of those who have been false to the truth which humanity placed in them.

We will resist with all our strength those who have accepted the suffrages of men and women who day by day give service to the country through the toil and thought of their hands and brains and who have then cast aside the obligation to court favor at the hand of greed.

We will resist with equal vigor those who have, without thought and without price turned their minds in legislative work into the channels of yesterday and the methods of centuries now dead.

These we will resist as unworthy of America, as unworthy of the manhood and womanhood of our country, as false to our needs and hopes and aspirations, and as incapable of responding to the thought of our time.

There must be progress. There must be positive action. There must be forward motion. There must be an end to negation, an end to repression, an end to that which holds back ad thrusts downward the head and the heart of the people of our land.

The American Federation of Labor has called upon the working people of our country to go into the primaries and into the elections, visiting stinging rebuke and defeat upon those who have been deaf to the needs and the wishes of the great masses of our people. At this hour, early in the great struggle as it is, the response is amazing and inspiring. The heart of the nation beats as it beat in the stirring days of 1918.

There is purpose and determination—a nonpartisan purpose to send up to speak for us men who will speak the speech that is in us, who will answer to the throb of the nation's heart, who will act in accord with the big purpose and idealism of true American character.

This struggle is the struggle of the American people to shut off forever [illegible] encroaching forces of political [illegible] industrial reaction.

This struggle is a struggle of America to register a great determination not to be misrepresented.

Party and pronouncement of the past count for nothing. Records and deeds are the measures of men today. By what they have done ye shall know them, and knowing them, mark them for defeat and rebuke!

This is America's great testing of spirit and purpose.

This is America's opportunity to bring joy to the soul of freedom.

Defeat every enemy!

Elect those who are true!

Solidarity and unity of purpose today can only mean a magnificent advance for human freedom, a definite measure of progress won and held for all time and for all humanity!

JUSTICE TO WORKERS IS GOOD INVESTMENT

Washington, May 1.—"The law of compensation is immutable," declared Congressman Huddleston, of Alabama in defending workers against the charge that they are wasteful, extravagant and do not maintain a maximum production.

"Men give in proportion to what they receive," said the law maker. "Labor returns in service in fair proportion to the justice which is meted out to it. Deal with labor unjustly and you have either a total failure or a decrease in production. Force upon labor unjust wages and unfair conditions and you will have your strikes, either off the job or on the job. The world should understand that by now.

"What has been done for labor that it should hold to the maximum of production? Labor made its sacrifices during the war. It was carried on by a high tide of idealism. It was told, 'We are fighting to make the world safe for democracy. We are going to bring democracy home to ourselves and take it into our workshops and make brotherhood a living part of industry.' That was what we heard during the war.

"But at once when the armistice was signed labor was dismayed to find marshaling and organizing against it from one end of the country to the other the great employer classes in a way which indicated their firm resolve to go back to the old conditions—to the old fight between the man who toils and the man he works for; to go back to the old system of strikes and labor troubles and grinding and exploitation. Labor was dismayed, disheartened and disgusted.

"I commend to the great employer interests of this country the text, 'Whatever ye sow, that shall ye also reap.'

"As soon as the war was over a false and raucous cry went up from the employer interests that labor had profiteered during the war; that it had not been patriotic. There was not a word of truth in it. Labor had made great sacrifices.

"I made an investigation at the time, and I know whereof I speak. The fact was that labor had received from 1914 until the armistice was signed an average increase in wages for all callings of only 34½ per cent. But during that same interval the cost of living had increased above 80 per cent. The workingman was receiving $1.34 for the same amount of work that he got $1 for before the war, but he was paying $1.82 for a dollar's worth of the necessaries of life to suport his family.

"Yet no publicity was given to that fact by the great channels of publicity. The facts were suppressed, and the false charge that labor had profiteered and been unpatriotic was echoed all over the country. It was done in the interest of the great employers for the vicious purpose of discrediting labor and preparing the way for the assault that has followed upon it. Ought that to increase production? Is that calculated to make the man who works work harder and sweat a few drops more?"

LET 'EM TALK, SAYS EDITOR.

New York, May 1.—If a man wants to air his views, let him talk, said Glenn Frank, associate editor of Century Magazine, in a speech in this city. Free speech should be allowed the fullest possible expression, the speaker said, "since extreme doctrines, like germs, die in the sunlight but flourish in darkness."

"The American people can be trusted to take the necessary action when it sees liberty really menaced. There should not be a stopping, but the most effective stimulation of free speech."

ANTI-UNIONISTS FAIL.

Cleburne, Texas, May 1. — Anti-trade union organizations of business men have failed to stop the growth of organized labor, report officers of the Texas state federation of labor to the annual convention held in this city. Workers have not been tricked by high-sounding names attached to these cheap-labor outfits, and federation officials point to the growth of the organized movement.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Tampa, Fla., May 1.—After long controversy between the Typographical union and employers, an arbitration award, which dates back to January 27, raises rates to $44 a week for both day and night work.

PRINTERS WANT MORE.

Toronto, Ontario, May 1.—The Typographical union has asked that wages be increased to 83 cents an hour to meet the increased cost of living.

"DOLLAR GRAB" IDEAL UNFIT FOR EDUCATION

New York, May 1.—According to The American Teacher, low wages is not the only ill that afflicts our public school system.

The American Teacher is the official magazine of organized teachers. It declares that teachers themselves have allowed the public to get its education as cheaply as possible.

"Immediate results have been," says this magazine, "that the public has suffered from its own law of supply and demand, and is getting a cheap kind of education and in many respects a cheap kind of educator. This disposition of the American public to measure its great social agency of education as it measures the value of commercial products has all but made it impossible to get results in educational systems except through the approach to economic evaluation.

"A sad result of the major emphasis of material value has been the incidental elimination of conditions which in their nature tend to develop the social, the spiritual and the generally human aspects of education.

"We cannot make teaching attractive by paying for it. We can only succeed in this matter by cooperating to make teaching really and inherently worth while for the job itself. The job is not worth while if the conditions are unjust, if the supervisors are cruel and narrow, if they take advantage of their positions to command and to punish. And the job is not worth while if the educating gets nowhere, any more than making harness would be attractive if the straps broke always, or the buckles tore out.

"While we have the ear of the public let us not fail our ideals. Let us tell the whole truth about what is the matter with the job. Then, only, will it be possible for education to compete with trade, which has few ideals, and makes chiefly the personal and the economic appeal."

BLAME "LEADERS."

New York, May 1.—At the annual convention of the American Newspaper Publishers' association Governor Allen, in explaining the Kansas "can't-strike" law, took the old view that "leaders" are responsible for strikes and discontent. He said:

"From the beginning we thought that all we had to do was to get hold of the radical leaders who called these miners out and apply the law to them. And I think that is all that is going to be necessary."

When asked would the state build more jails if a considerable number of workers violated this "law" Governor Allen gave the following flippant reply:

"If all the people in New York died in one night there would not be enough undertakers, and we are not borrowing troubles of this sort."

GREATER UNITY URGED.

Cincinnati, May 1.—Members of the Metal Polishers' International union have voted in favor of all metal working trade unions holding a conference for the purpose of perfecting a closer working alliance. The propositions submitted to the membership by the polishers' convention merely declared for the principle, and officers of this union have submitted another proposal to the referendum in which plans are outlined and will be submitted to the next convention of the A. F. of L. metal trades department if approved.

ONLY SLIGHT INJURY.

Olympia, Wash., May 1.—The attitude of some people toward workers is indicated by this letter to the state industrial insurance commission:

"In regard to this Man * * * was here until a few days ago, and they took hin to the pest house, on cout of Smallpox, from what I can learn a bout this Man. he worked a while Timing trees while he was laid up, as he had only a copple ribs broken, and could work some at that."

LOITERING LAW ILLEGAL.

Cleveland, Ohio, May 1. — The loitering law, passed by the state legislature in 1917, has been declared unconstitutional by Judge Dingaman. The law exempts "persons temporarily out of employment on account of strikes and lockouts," and the court held that this was class legislation because a person who was idle through no fault of his own could be held under the act.

IRON MOLDERS UNITE.

Asheville, N. C., May 1. — Iron molders in this city have organized and are chartered by the International Molders' union.

MORE MILLIONAIRES ONE RESULT OF WAR

Washington, May 1.—Congressman Henry T. Rainey shook the dry bones of the house of representatives by turning the searchlight on to the increased number of millionaires as a result of the war and the efforts of these individuals to escape further taxation through a direct tax on every purchase.

Those who remained at home and pursued their ordinary business avocation made returns fabulous in amounts, said Congressman Rainey, who declared that as a result of the war, 22,000 new millionaires were created. In 1914, he said, there were 69,000 men whose incomes exceeded $20,000 a year, but during the war these incomes had reached a total of $3,000,000,000 more than during the three pre-war years.

"During this period, when the boys were at the front, the corporations of this country made during the years 1917, 1918, 1919 and during the year 1920, which was really a war year—corporations of this country made, and in their tax returns they admit they made, $3,800,000,000 more than they did in the same number of pre-war years."

Regarding the proposal to pay a bonus to soldiers by taxing sales, the speaker said:

"I know you gentlemen; I understand your methods. You are going to put some cushions in this bill, but you are going to yield to the demands of Wall street. You are going to yield to the demands of the millionaire war profiteers of this country and impose the sales tax they want imposed because they think when imposed once we will never be able to get rid of it, because they want to escape some portion of the taxes on the immense incomes they are enjoying at the present time."

The speaker declared that a tax on sales means reversion to the middle ages "when armed soldiers of feudal thieves and barons" terrorized communities. He insisted that a bonus for soldiers should be taken out of war profits instead of protecting the war profiteers, giving the bonus and then taking it away in the form of increased living costs through a tax on every individual purchase.

"It is not necessary to disguise the situation," said the lawmaker. "There is a contest on in this country today and throughout the world to find out who is going to bear the brunt of these stupendous war debts. Wealth, on the one hand, is seeking to avoid that burden; and through the sales tax of the middle ages and the merchant taxes of 700 years ago it is seeking to impose that burden upon the people of the land.

"You gentlemen are not up to the economic thought of the present day; you cling to the theories of long ago. You do not realize, so far are you behind the times, that you stand today in a new world, a world which faces bankruptcy, and we will follow the other nations rapidly along that course if your method of increasing millionaires and increasing the numberless proletarian class of this land is to prevail."

To sustain his claim that his colleagues on the majority side are economic back numbers when they advocate a sales tax he showed that England is studying the question of taxing war wealth, and a preliminary affirmative report has been made.

"In England they can do that; in this country we cannot," said the speaker.

Attention was also called to similar activities in France, where economists declare that new systems of taxes must be evolved.

WOOLEN TRUST PROSPERS.

New York, May 1.—Backers of the overalls campaign are urging people to reduce their living standard as a remedy for high prices of clothing, while the American Woolen company makes the glad announcement that its profits for last year has smashed all records.

The net profits of $15,512,415 are equal to a dividend of $38.89 a share on the $20,000,000 of outstanding common stock, against earnings of $12.86 on the common stock in 1918.

A CALL TO ARMS.

Charleston, W. Va., May 1.—The West Virginia Mining News is terrified at the non-partisan political activity of trade unionists and declares that "unless there is a more earnest effort made it is practically certain that the results in November will show heavy increases in the power of union leaders in congress and the legislatures."

DEMAND EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Stamford, Conn., May 1. — Employes of Palmer Brothers' marine works rejected a small wage increase and suspended work when they were refused the eight-hour day and the union shop.

SPOTTERS AND SPIES BACK BISBEE MOBBERS

Tucson, Ariz., May 1.—Spotters and spies furnished by the Thiel detective agency are leading witnesses in the defense of the Bisbee mobbers, who are on trial at Tombstone for their assault on 1,186 workers in July, 1917.

This charge was made by Tom C. Foster, candidate for state mine inspector, and H. D. Metcalf, an official of Cochise county, in which Bisbee is located, at a meeting of the Tucson central trades council.

Many of the statements being made at the trial, now in progress, was declared by Foster to be absolutely false. He insisted that the large bulk of the victimized workers were A. F. of L. men and not I. W. W., as is claimed by "the hirelings of the copper interests who would appeal to the prejudices of the country to conceal their illegal act."

"We were abused and villified," he said, "for having the temerity to better our conditions. There was no violence of any sort except the violence of the copper companies and their hired thugs. Conditions in the district were quiet until the morning of July 12, 1917, when like a bolt out of the darkness, the sheriff of Cochise county and a large force of 'loyalty leaguers' presuming to act as deputies under the sheriff's orders, swooped down upon us—2,000 of them, all armed to the teeth, and they rounded up 1,186 men, put them aboard a train and carried them to Columbus, New Mexico, where they were abandoned without food, water or shelter for several days."

To prove that the deported men were peacefully inclined the speaker showed that only 12 guns were found among the deported men.

MOBBERS WOULD "PROTECT."

Nashville, Tenn., May 1.—City detectives are on trial for deporting John B. Lawson, representative of the international street car men's organization, from this city last year. Detective Gus Kiger is charged with pointing a gun at Lawson and forcing him to leave the city in an automobile. Kiger makes the ridiculous defense that Lawson left the city voluntarily and that he went along to "protect" him.

One of the accused testified that they had received orders from the chief of police that Lawson must be gotten out of the city. The court excluded this evidence on the ground that it was irrevelant, and that the important thing to be considered was what the officers did and not what orders they had received. Before the trial Lawson said he would connect "higher ups" with the outrage. It is now charged that the mayor's automobile was used by the mobbers.

THE OVERALLS CAMPAIGN.

Madison, Wis., May 1.—"The best that can be said for the present overalls campaign to lower the cost of living is that it is 'silly,'" says Editor Evjue of the Capital Times.

"Overalls have already begun to go up in price as a result of the campaign and the only good to come will be that the men who really have to wear overalls will have to pay more for them.

"The American Woolen Mills company, whose profits jumped from $2,000,000 in 1914 to $14,000,000 in 1919, go along unmolested in their plunder of the public through high prices on clothing.

"If some of the enthusiasm now being used in overalls campaigns could be turned toward the prosecution of criminal profiteers conditions would be improved."

NO PHYSICAL TRAINING.

Boston, May 1.—The state senate has defeated a plan to establish physical education and training in the Massachusetts public schools. Doctors and educators favored the proposal. Opponents included clergymen and lay citizens who feared that it might open the door to the teaching of sex hygiene, birth control and related subjects. It was opposed also by many municipal authorities because of the power it would give the state department of education to prescribe the courses in the schools.

MONEY IN CORN PRODUCTS.

New York, May 1.—For the first three months of this year earnings of the Corn Products Refining company jumped to $5 a share. During the same period last year this stock earned $2.25 a share.

BUILDERS RAISE WAGES.

East St. Louis, Ill., May 1.—After a week's strike several hundred organized laborers and concrete workers raised wages. Other building craftsmen suspended work in sympathy with these demands.

RUSSIAN SECRET POLICE METHODS ADOPTED BY PALMER'S AGENTS

Boston, May 1.—At the trial of members of the communist party before Federal District Judge Anderson it was stated that agents of the department of justice stimulated meetings of the revolutionists so that arrests could be made.

Judge Anderson denounced this czarist method, and declared that "there is no doubt in my mind that the government operates some part of the communist party." The court said: "This spotters' evidence and pseudo membership of persons make it perfectly easy to argue that persons in the employ of the government might have issued literature intended to bring into condemnation people connected with the party. I don't know anything about it, but the evidence here is clear that the government owns and operates some part of the communist party. That means something to any one who has had experience with spies in private industry."

Judge Anderson also objected to the department of justice policy of arresting without warrant. The court declared that the arrest of radical suspects and their detention without warrants for two weeks was a lawless proceeding and that the round-up of alleged radicals by department of justice and immigration agents "seems to have been carried out on the theory of hang first and try afterward."

Federal Attorney Goldberg objected to this indictment by the court, and Judge Anderson replied: "I wish you would show me one case in which the department of justice has the authority to arrest persons and hold them for two weeks without warrants. A more lawless proceeding is hard to conceive. Talk about Americanization, what we need is Americanization of those who carry on such proceedings. I can hardly sit on the bench as an American citizen and restrain my indignation. I view with horror such proceedings as this."

Robert M. Valkenburgh, an agent of the department of justice, who testified that he had detained persons without having a warrant, was asked by the court if that was his notion of liberty under the law.

Attorney Goldberg interjected that the agent was acting under orders from Washington, to which Judge Anderson replied: "Any citizen with a knowledge of Americanism should resign when given such instructions."

Washington, May 1. — Attorney General Palmer denies that his secret agents joined the communist party to stimulate activity, as charged in the court of Federal Judge Anderson, Boston.

The attorney general says his "confidential informants" have been given strict orders "not to engage actively" in any organization under their investigation.

New York, May 1. — The New York World makes this editorial comment on Judge Anderson's statement in the Boston federal district court in reference to the claim that government agents stimulated activity among revolutionists:

"In this instance we have the word of a judge that federal officers acted as agents of provocation and helped to commit the unlawful deeds which they afterwards attributed to others.

"The presumption is that these offenders are subordinates of the attorney general, whose belief that the constitution and laws are on the point of overthrow has led him to institute what amouts to a reign of terror. So long as he remains at the head of the department of justice it will be useless to look in that quarter for redress, but if congress would forego partisan politics for a few days it might do something to vindicate human rights even against A. Mitchell Palmer."

PROFITEERS IN CLOVER.

Washington, May 1.—In a speech in the United States senate Mr. Capper of Kansas included a list of corporations and their immense profits since the beginning of the war. These are exclusive of vast sums that the government must refund because of the supreme court's decision that stock dividends can not be taxed under the income tax law. Senator Capper said that the price of crude oil has been increased 300 per cent.

"Other upholders of government and befrienders of the poor," he said, "are the American Hide & Leather company, whose profits for 1919 were more than three and one-half times larger than those it gained in 1914; the Central Leather company, whose 1919 profits are more than double those of the same months in 1918; and the Endicott-Johnson shoe manufacturing corporation, whose profits rose from $2,174,430 in 1915 to $9,791,580 in 1919.

"In terms of dividends on its common stock, last year's profits of the American Hide & Leather company increased from 44 cents a share in 1915 to $15.52 a share in 1919, or 35 times the earnings it distributed in 1915 and they were ample."

GOVERNOR IS "KIDDED."

Topeka, Kan., May 1.—Kansas trade unionists are determined to wipe out Governor Allen's "can't-strike" law, but they have not permitted this fight to destroy their sense of humor.

Governor Allen is furious at the sheriff of Crawford county for permitting President Howat of the miners to address a mass meeting from the balcony of the jail. The miner was supposed to be in jail at the time on contempt of court proceedings because he refused to recognize the industrial court. The governor is now telling what he intends doing to the sheriff and the Topeka central labor union suggests to the state executive that he arrest the county commissioners for building a jail with a balcony and for neglect "in not providing a moat and drawbridge to keep a possible audience from within speaking distance."

MOBBERS WERE ANTI-UNION.

Tombstone, Ariz., May 1.—Mobbers on trial for deporting 1,186 Bisbee workers in 1917 allege patriotic motives, but Prosecutor French thinks otherwise, according to this statement by him in open court:

"I'll prove by competent witnesses that since the year 1907 the copper companies in the Warren district have waged a war to the knife against organized labor and particularly against the A. F. of L.

"I'll show that if the companies did not import I. W. W. into Bisbee, and we have reason to believe they did, that they did encourage them after their arrival; that A. F. of L. men lost their jobs in the mines and their jobs were given to I. W. W."

CAN'T DEMAND COSTS.

Washington, May 1.—The attempt of the federal trade commission to secure coal production costs has been given a setback by the District of Columbia supreme court, which rules that the commission has no authority to enforce its order requiring monthly reports of production costs from coal companies.

By enforcing this order the commission could make public valuable information but now this is stopped.

When the federal trade commission adopted this system a few years ago it was welcomed by the coal owners who now say they are being "ordered about."

CARPENTERS GAIN.

Waterbury, Conn., May 1.—More than 800 carpenters are benefited by a new wage increase from 85 cents an hour to 87½ cents. The rate will be increased to $1 on August 1.

WANT 44-HOUR WEEK.

Hamilton, Ontario, May 1. — A 44-hour work week and 90 cents an hour is the decision of Machinists' lodge No. 414. Present rates range from 60 to 75 cents.

BAD TEETH IN SCHOOL.

New York, May 1.—A survey of several schools in a tenement house section in this city shows that out of 1,285 children examined nearly 91 per cent have defective teeth.

MEXICAN ROWS NOT NEW.

Sacramento, Cal., May 1.—"There is no situation in Mexico today that differs materially from the situation that has existed there almost from time immemorial," says the Sacramento Union.

"There is revolution of a sort," continues this paper, "but revolutions have been a feature of Mexican life ever since the white man down there enslaved such red men as he did not murder.

"There is outlawry, brigandage, all the evils of government that is not government, but that is the normal condition in Mexico.

"Except under the tyrannous administration of Diaz, Mexico has known no such thing as peace in the four centuries of her known history. It has been outbreak after outbreak, revolution upon revolution; in short, exactly what must have been expected of a hopelessly ignorant and terribly downtrodden people. Other than such history as this, she has had practically none."

OUTPUT ABOVE U. S. NEEDS.

St. Louis, Mo., May 1.—American production is now on a basis of 40 per cent above the needs of this country, said Edward A. Higgs, chairman of the foreign trade survey of the Mississippi valley association, at its convention in this city. United States Secretary of Commerce Alexander took the same position.

"The time has come," said Secretary Alexander, "when our capacity for production exceeds all legitimate domestic needs and we must depend upon foreign markets for the sale of our surplus products if we wish to avoid the slowing down of industry, which would have a serious effect on our economic and industrial life.

"We must not only maintain but increase our production in preparation for this future keen competition in world commerce."

WHAT IT COSTS TO MINE COAL.

Washington, May 1.—The cost of producing a ton of coal increased 28 cents from January, 1918, to January, this year, reports the federal trade commission. The figures show that last January the cost was $2.32 a ton, while the average for 1918 was $2.04 a ton.

Average sales realization for last January was $2.78 a ton; as compared with the 1918 average of $2.60 a ton, a difference of 18 cents a ton in the amount realized. These figures were based on the accounts of 1,272 operators. Margin between production cost and sales realization for last January, the commission's figures showed, was 46 cents a ton, as compared with a margin of 56 cents a ton for 1918.

HOWAT OUT ON BAIL.

Pittsburg, Kan., May 1.—President Howat of district No. 14, United Mine Workers, together with three associate officers, have been released from jail on $2,000 bail. They were confined for a week because of their refusal to recognize Governor Allen's industrial court. The case will be taken to the state supreme court. On Howat's release he addressed the largest mass meeting that ever assembled in Franklin and again declared war against the Kansas "can't-strike" law. He said that even if the governor does get mad he will fail to bluff Kansas miners into surrendering their rights.

NO OVERALLS HERE.

Cincinnati, May 1.—Officers of the Metal Polishers' International union do not seem to be impressed with the plan of wearing overalls to combat the H. C. of L. In the current issue of the polishers' journal, Editor Atherton spreads this announcement across the cover: "Yes, and if the profiteers boost price any higher we are going to ask for another raise, too."

CONVICT BROOMS END.

Peoria, Ill., May 1.—City officials have discontinued the manufacture of brooms in the Peoria work house as a result of agitation by organized labor.

FEDERAL EMPLOYES UNITE.

New Haven, Conn., May 1.—Federal employes in this city have organized and affiliated with the National Federation of Federal Employes.